ZERO MAHOU
SCANLATIONS PRESENTS

ZERO KARA HAJIMERU MAHOUR NO SHO CHAPTER 5

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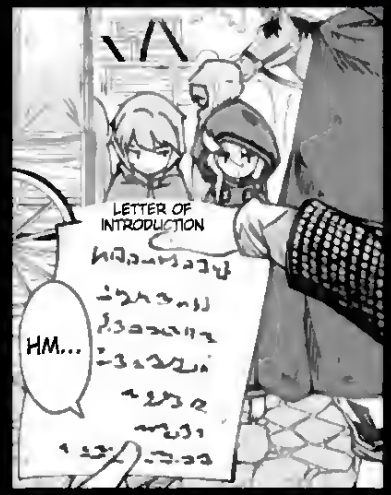
KURO-P1

SPECIAL THANKS TO VULGRIM FOR THE RAWS!

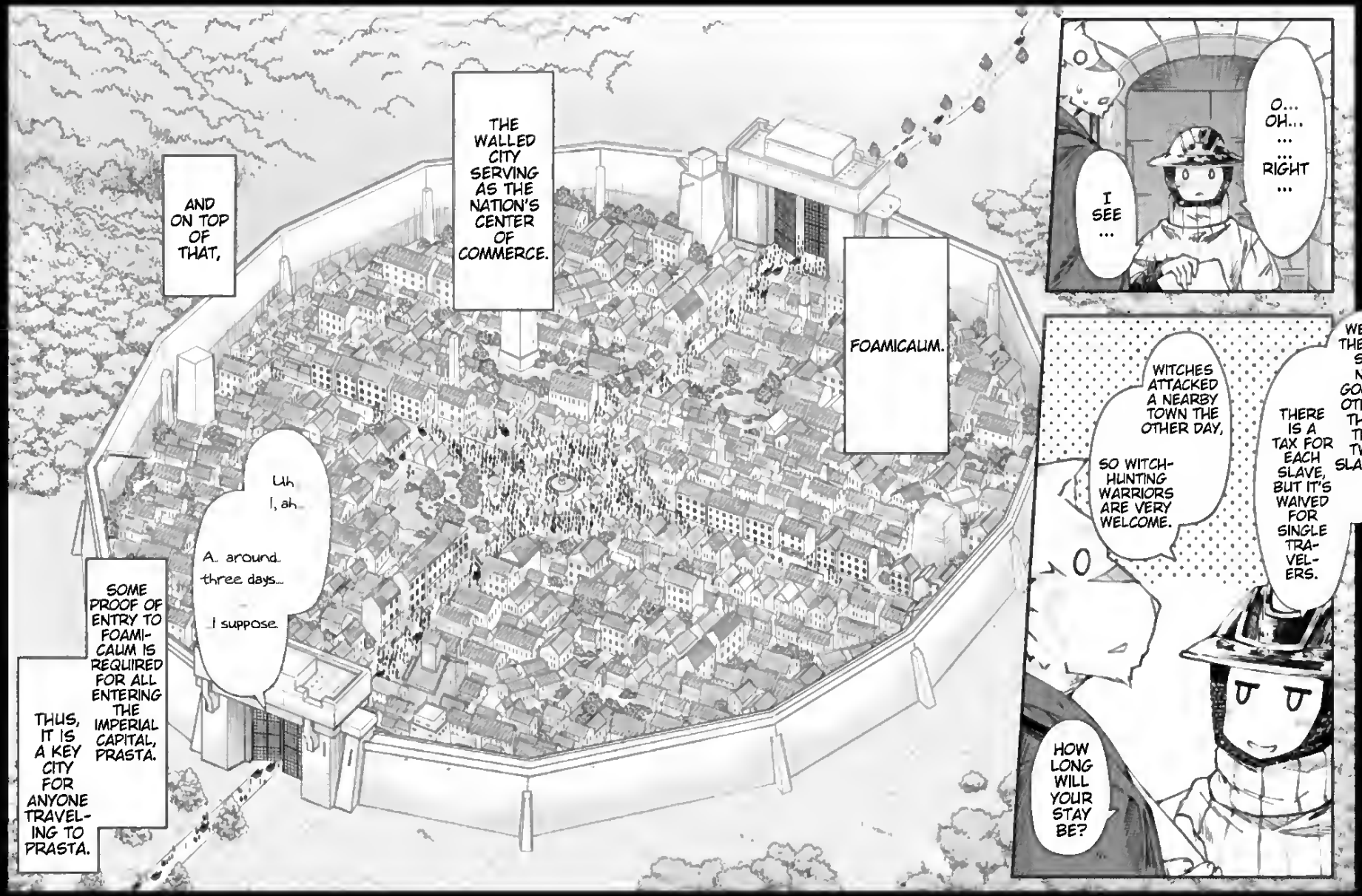
I CERTIANLY DID NOT EXPECT TO BE STRUCK FOR MY ACUMEN.
SINCE LONG AGO, WARRIORS HAVE GENERALLY BEEN ACCOM-PANIED BY SLAVES, YES?
AND EVERY BOOK COUNSELS TO CALL ONESELF A SLAVE IF QUESTIONED ABOUT ONE'S IDENTITY.
IN THE END, DID IT NOT PROVE EFFACIOUS?
SHE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW!
LIKE, FOR A FALLEN BEAST GOING AROUND WITH THIS SHABBILY-DRESSED GIRL AND A GUY WITH MY LOOKS,
THAT WOULD BE THE MOST REALISTIC EXPLANATION, WOULDN'T IT?

Y...
!?
WE ARE HIS SLAVES.
YES, WE ARE!
WE ARE HONORED TO SERVE OUR MASTER.
THE TWO OF US ARE BUT HIS LOWLY SLAVES.
Though we perform night services too~

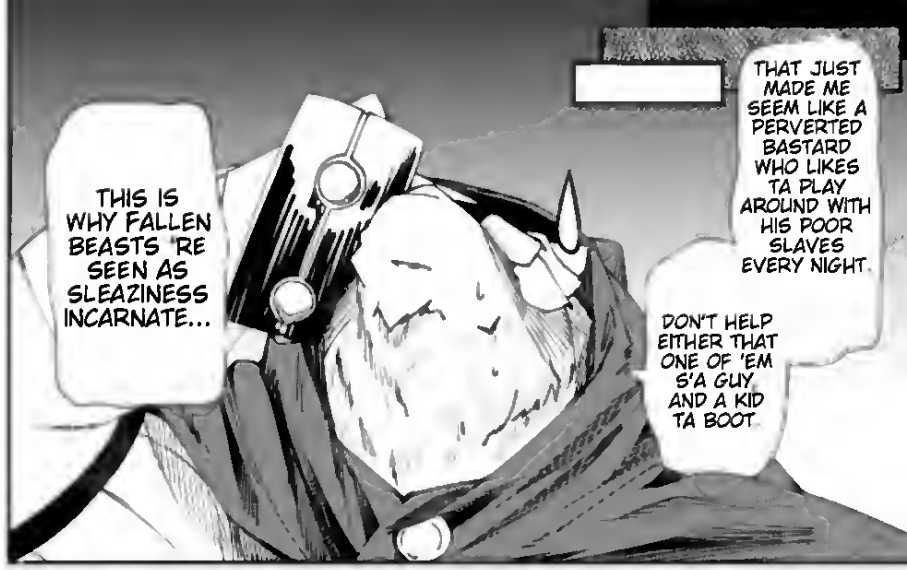

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION
HM...

I HEAR YER LOOKIN FER SOLDIERS TA HELP WITH THE WITCH HUNTS,
SO I'M HEADIN' TA PRASTA TA VOL-UNTEER.

ARE THESE TWO WITH YOU?
WHAT'S YOUR RELA-TION-SHIP?
UH...


AND ON TOP OF THAT,
THE WALLED CITY SERVING AS THE NATION'S CENTER OF COMMERCE.
FOAMICALUM.
SOME PROOF OF ENTRY TO FOAMICALUM IS REQUIRED FOR ALL ENTERING THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL, PRASTA.
THUS, IT IS A KEY CITY FOR ANYONE TRAVELING TO PRASTA.
Uh
I, ah
A.. around three days...
I suppose.
I SEE ...
O... OH... ... ... RIGHT ...
WELL THEN... SO NO GOODS OTHER THAN THE TWO SLAVES.
THERE IS A TAX FOR EACH SLAVE, BUT IT'S WAIVED FOR SINGLE TRAVELERS.
WITCHES ATTACKED A NEARBY TOWN THE OTHER DAY,
SO WITCH-HUNTING WARRIORS ARE VERY WELCOME.
HOW LONG WILL YOUR STAY BE?

WELL, I...
PRO-PER-LY, I GUESS?
PRO-PER-LY, HUH?
ZERO'S CLOTHES ARE WAY TOO WORSE FOR WEAR FOR WHAT-EVER EXCUSE YOU MIGHT'VE COME UP WITH.
LOOK, EVERYONE'S STARING AT HER.
EVEN A SLAVE WOULD HAVE BETTER CLOTHES THAN WHAT SHE'S WEARING.


THAT JUST MADE ME SEEM LIKE A PERVERTED BASTARD WHO LIKES TA PLAY AROUND WITH HIS POOR SLAVES EVERY NIGHT.
DON'T HELP EITHER THAT ONE OF 'EM S'A GUY AND A KID TA BOOT.
THIS IS WHY FALLEN BEASTS 'RE SEEN AS SLEAZINESS INCARNATE...

BUT IS IT A PROBLEM, REALLY?
WHO CARES WHAT THE GUARD THINKS, S'LONG AS YOU GOT YOUR SOJOURNER'S PERMIT?
HOW WERE YOU GONNA WRITE IT OFF, MERC?
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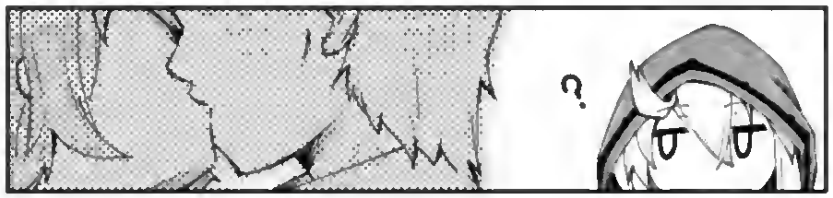
WHY DO THEY PRESS THEIR LIPS TOGETHER? SOME SORT OF RITUAL, PERHAPS?
A KISS?
...DON'T YA KNOW WHAT A KISS IS?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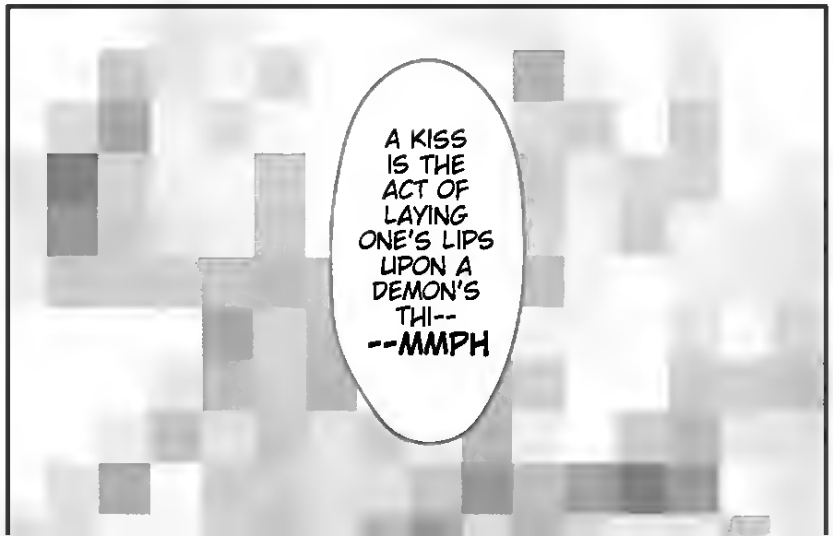
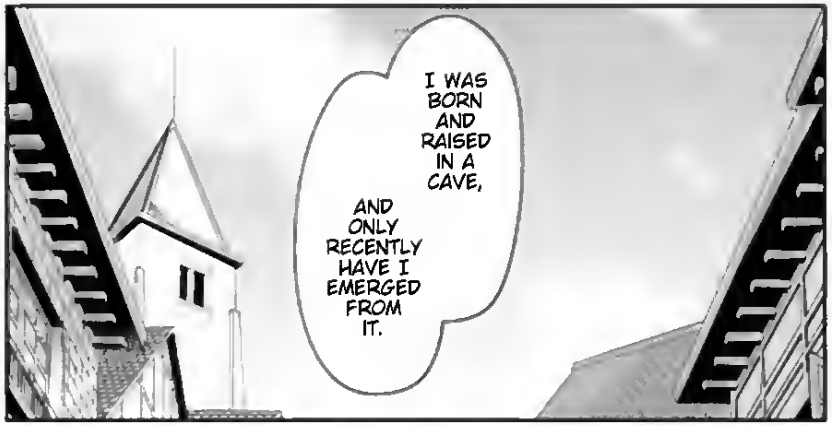

A KISS IS THE ACT OF LAYING ONE'S LIPS UPON A DEMON'S THI--
--MMPH

WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?
MERCEN-ARY, MERCEN-ARY.

...JUST A PAIR A' LOVE-BIRDS
WHO'RE TOO LOVE-STRUCK TA SEE THE PEOPLE AROUND 'EM.
I'm so jea-


I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN A CAVE,
AND ONLY RECENTLY HAVE I EMERGED FROM IT.

REALLY BE TRUE?
...hn

COULD SUCH AN OUT-LANDISH STORY ...

SAY, MERCENARY, HAVE YOU DONE IT BEFORE?
IF IT IS...
THEN IT ISN'T SUCH AN OUT-LANDISH STORY AT ALL...

I-I'M NOT CLUE-LESS AS TO WHAT A KISS IS!
KID... DON'T TELL ME... YOU TOO...?
GOOD.
shake shake
squirm
struggle

I AM A STRANGER TO THE CUSTOMS OF THE WORLD,
HAVING LIVED IN A SEA OF BOOKS
WHILE POURING HEART AND SOUL INTO RE-SEARCH.

IT'S GOT NOTHIN' TA DO WITH A DEMON'S THING.
A KISS IS A WAY FER TWO PEOPLE TA SHOW THAT THEY LOVE EACH OTHER.
WITCH, YOU OKAY?
Gasp

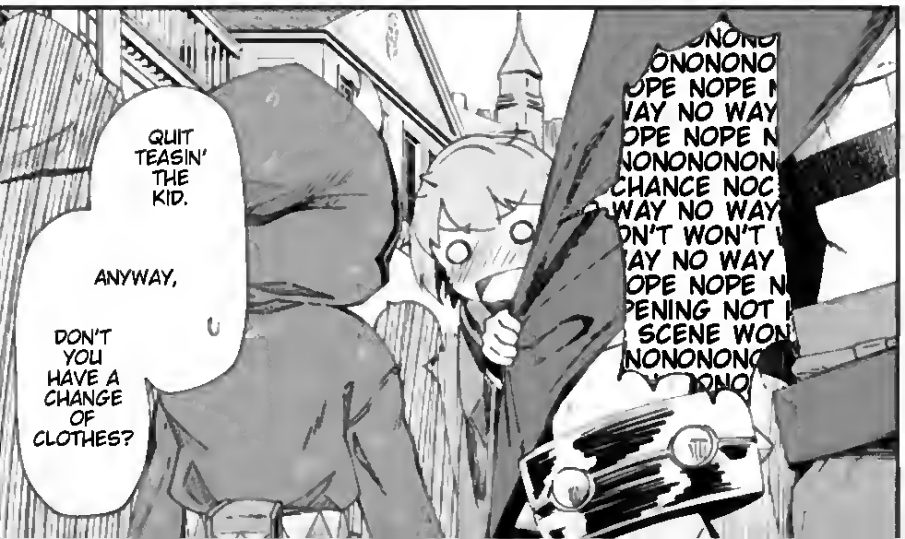
ED. NOTE: THIS DORK RIGHT HERE ^

WHA AAA AAA?!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY IT WITH ME, MERCENARY?
ME TOO.
SO A KISS IS THE EXCHANGE OF A TOKEN OF AFFECTION. I SEE. VERY INTERESTING.
I DO WISH TO TRY IT.

I... DON'T EVEN HAVE ANYONE I WANNA DO IT WITH YET!
M-ME?! N-NO-NO-NO-NO-NO!
SURPRISING.
HAS YOUNGSTER HERE DONE IT?
THEN THAT MAKES TWO OF US.

I AM DEVASTATINGLY BEAUTIFUL, IF YOU WERE NOT AWARE.
I EXPECT EVEN YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MY LIPS.
I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE-- EVEN IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE ME, AT LEAST HAVE A BETTER ATTITUDE ABOUT IT.
HUH. sigh TH--
うん、そっか

... VERY WELL. IF YOU ARE NOT WILLING, I WILL HAVE TO TRY IT WITH YOUNGSTER INSTE--
YOU ARE QUITE THE COLD MAN.
BESIDES, SORRY, BUT I HATE WITCHES.
NO AMOUNT OF BEAUTY WILL CHANGE THAT.
THOSE LINES JUST TURNED ME OFF.


QUIT TEASIN' THE KID.
ANYWAY,
DON'T YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF CLOTHES?
ONONONO
OPE NOPE
AY NO WAY
OPE NOPE
NONONONON
CHANCE NOC
WAY NO WAY
ON'T WON'T
AY NO WAY
OPE NOPE
PENING NOT
SCENE WON
NONONONO

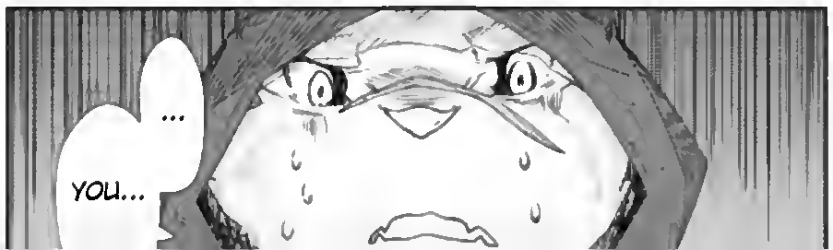
I... I TOLD YA ALREADY, IT'S FER TWO PEOPLE TA SHOW THEY LOVE EACH OTHER!
THAT'S WHY I AM SAYING WE SHOULD TRY IT.

I LIKE YOU, AFTER ALL.

AND I EVEN SAL-VAGED A POT FROM AN ABAN-DONED VILLAGE WITH WHICH TO COOK.
WHEN IT RAINED, I FOUND CAVES TO TAKE SHELTER IN.
WHEN I CAME ACROSS OTHER PEOPLE, I JUST AVOIDED THEM.
I WASHED MY CLOTHES AND BATHED IN ANY RIVER I FOUND, PICKED ALL THE FRUIT AND BERRIES I COULD, AND CAUGHT BIRDS WHEN NECESSARY.
THAT IS HOW I MANAGED TO JOURNEY HERE ALONE WITH ONLY THESE!

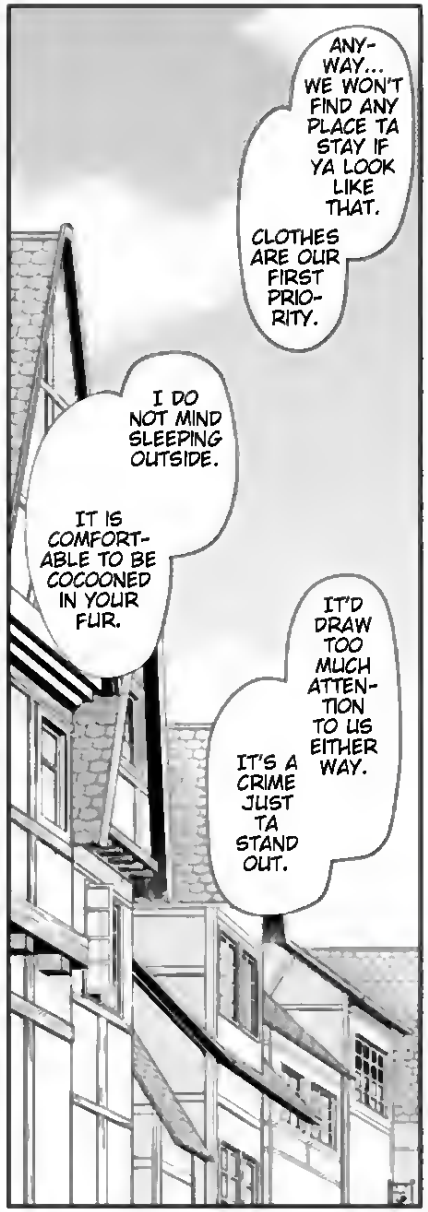
HOW'D YA GET SO FAR WITH NOTHIN' BUT THOSE...
WHY, DOES IT SEEM THAT I DO?

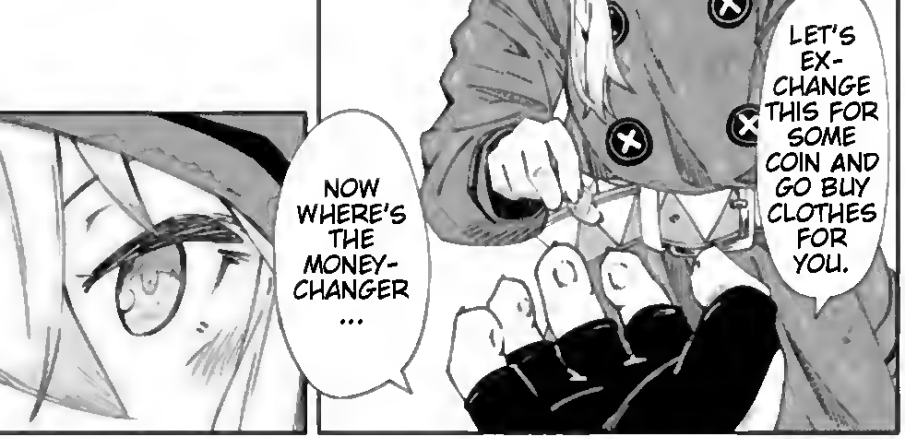
I BROUGHT A FEW FROM THE CAVE.
GEMSTONES HOLD VALUE IN ANY NATION OR ERA, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN.
WILL THIS SUFFICE AS A SUBSTI-TUTE?


...
YOU...

HEY, WITCH,
I DON'T SUPPOSE YA GOT ANY MONEY ON YA?

HOLD OUT YOUR HANDS.


ANY-WAY... WE WON'T FIND ANY PLACE TA STAY IF YA LOOK LIKE THAT.
CLOTHES ARE OUR FIRST PRIO-RITY.
I DO NOT MIND SLEEPING OUTSIDE.
IT IS COMFORT-ABLE TO BE COCOONED IN YOUR FUR.
IT'D DRAW TOO MUCH ATTEN-TION TO US EITHER WAY.
IT'S A CRIME JUST TA STAND OUT.


NOW WHERE'S THE MONEY-CHANGER ...
LET'S EX-CHANGE THIS FOR SOME COIN AND GO BUY CLOTHES FOR YOU.

YOU HAD EVERY CHANCE TO SNATCH THIS AND RUN.
I AM IGNORANT OF THIS WORLD, AFTER ALL.
...EH?
I KNEW IT. YOU ARE A GOOD MAN.

NOPE! NO WAY.
NOT WITH HOW YOU WERE SHAKING IN PANIC WHEN SHE SHOWED THEM TO YOU!
SFX: POW
'COURSE I WOULD. I'M A GREEDY MERCEN-ARY.
SO WERE I NOT A WITCH, YOU WOULD HAVE TAKEN IT FROM ME?
ARE YOU STUPID?
I DON'T GOT THE GUTS TA PULL THAT ON A WITCH WHO DEALS WITH DEMONS.

YOU IDIOT!
DON'T GO SHOWIN' THAT OFF IN THE STREET!
WHY ARE YOU ANGRY WHEN YOU ASKED IF I HAD ANY IN THE FIRST PLACE?
YA NEED TA THINK OF THE TIME 'N' PLACE FER THINGS LIKE THAT!

LIKE THIS?
SHOWIN' ME JUST ONE A' THOSE GEMS WOULDA BEEN ENOUGH.
EVEN JUST THE SMALLEST ONE.
...YEAH.

AH... WHAT A CERULEAN SKY.
I...

YA WANT ANO-THER ONE? SHOULD I GIVE IT ANOTHER GO?
THAT HURT! I ONLY SAID WHAT'S TRUE!
YOU SURE LOVE TO ACT TOUGH!
NOO!

THIS IS NOT TO MY LIKING.
I DO SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE.
AN OLD, RAGGEDY DRESS LIKE THIS DOESN'T AT ALL SUIT M'LADY.

Please let me check my stock!

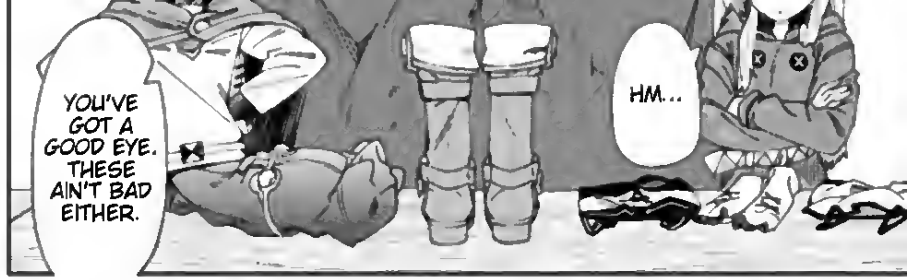
THAT'S... ROUGH.
IF I DIDN'T HATE WITCHES SO MUCH, I MIGHT'VE DONE LIKE HIM...
UNLIKE WITH KIDS, THERE'RE PLENTY'A GROWN MEN LIKE THAT.
'SPECIALLY THE UGLY ONES, SINCE NOT EVEN HARLOTS'LL DO 'EM ANY FAVORS.
IT'S PRETTY SAD THAT IT'S COME TO THIS.

I BELIEVE THESE PIECES MAY BE PLEASING FITS FOR YOU INDEED!
OL' MAN, I TOLD YOU, WE WANT TRAVELIN' CLOTHES.
AS HE SAYS. SOME-THING ELSE, PLEASE.
THEN PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THIS DRESS--
I SAID TRA-VELIN' CLOTHES, YA BALD BASTARD!
SHUT THE HELL UP, FURBALL!
I'M TALKIN' TO THE LADY OVER HERE!

VERY WELL. I AM PLEASED WITH THIS.
IF MERCENARY APPROVES, THEN I DO AS WELL.
HEY, YOU TWO! HOW'RE THESE?

MERCEN-ARY, MERCEN-ARY.
I BELIEVE THIS WILL SUIT MY NEEDS.
...NOT A BAD FIND.
BIT TOO BIG, BUT--

ANYWAY, YOU'RE GONNA NEED THOSE BOOTS.
SFX: Pout
OL' MAN! WE GOT WHAT WE NEED, SHOW US THE BILL!
SOME-TIMES WE'RE GONNA NEED TA BE FAST.
IF YA THINK I'LL CARRY YA EVERY TIME, YOU'RE MISTAK-EN.
THEN YOU WOULD LEAVE ME BEHIND? HOW HEART-LESS.
DOES MY COMPASS-ION REALLY SEEM THAT DEEP TO YA?
YOUR FUR SEEMS DEEP, AT LEAST.
DON'T MAKE ME HIT YA.


YOU'VE GOT A GOOD EYE. THESE AIN'T BAD EITHER.
HM...

THE DAMP DEW IS ALSO PLEA-SANT.
THE EARTH IS WARM AND THE GRASS IS GENTLE.
I PREFER TO WALK BARE-FOOT.

SO LONG AS I WALK SLOWLY, IT IS NOT A PROBLEM.
DON'T YA GET BRUISED EASILY?

PHEW.

WHAT, REDUCE THIS OLD FRIEND TO ASH?
CHANGE HERE AND WE'LL BURN WHAT YER WEARIN'.
Just dead weight
LONG-TERM RELA-TION-SHIPS AIN'T GOOD FOR YA.
YOU'LL MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND LOSE OLD ONES WITH 'EM.
HOW HEART-LESS.
I DON'T DISLIKE THAT MENTAL-ITY.
SFX: Yank

...WHAT?
IS IT THAT STRANGE TO SEE A NAKED WOMAN?

TO BE CONTINUED IN CHAPTER 6